

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02492 152147Z
ACTION SS-25

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02492

EXDIS
GENEVA FOR US DEL UNDP DR. BOURNE
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNDP, SHUM, VM, UNFPA
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS, VIETNAM, AND UNFPA PROJECT

REF: (A) USUN 2452, (B) USUN 2475, (C) GENEVA 9066

1. REFTELS REPORT UNFPA APPROACHES TO JAPANESE FOR POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO US DIFFICULTIES WITH RESETTLEMENT COMPONENT OF UNFPA'S VIETNAM PROJECT. ESSENCE OF SOLUTION CONSISTS OF EARMARKING -- OR ONE MIGHT SAY SETTING UP A "TRUST FUND" -- FROM JAPANESE PROMISED INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTION TO UNFPA TO BE USED FOR INTERNAL MIGRATION PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE. AMB ABE (JAPAN) TOLD AMB WELLS (JUNE 14) THAT HE DID NOT THINK TOKYO WOULD HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THE PROPOSED SOLUTION.

2. IT COULD BE ARGUED THAT JAPANESE FINANCING OF VIETNAM AND OTHER RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE WOULD SOLVE US PROBLEM WITH REGARD TO CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES. IT COULD EASILY BE SHOWN THAT NO US FUNDS WERE BEING SPENT FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING POSSIBLE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN VIETNAM. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT COULD ALSO BE ARGUED THAT JAPAN'S IMAGE AS SEEN BY THE US CONGRESS WOULD NOT BE ENHANCED BY ITS FUNDING OF VIETNAM'S RESETTLEMENT PROJECT,
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02492 152147Z

PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF JAPAN'S REFUSAL TO TAKE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. PAYMENT BY JAPANESE MIGHT EVEN SMACK OF OPPORTUNISM ON THE PART OF THE JAPANESE TO SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. ONE COULD ALSO ASK WHETHER THE US CONGRESS' ATTITUDE REGARDING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNIVERSITY WOULD BE IMPROVED BY THIS ACTION ON THE PART OF JAPAN.

3. MISSION STILL RECOMMENDS THAT BEST WAY OUT OF IMPASSE
IS TO HAVE AN OPEN DISCUSSION AT THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF
HUMAN RIGHTS FACTORS AFFECTING ALL RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS
FUNDED BY UNFPA WITH A VIEW TO SETTING UP A UN SYSTEM
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. LEONARD

NOTE BY OCT: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER INSTRUCTION S/S-O.

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Message Attributes

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